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E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/13/2017 TAGS: <u>KV YI UN PGOV EU PREL SP</u>

SUBJECT: SPAIN CONTINUES TO SUPPORT EU POSITION ON KOSOVO

REF: STATE 109526

Classified By: ADCM Josie Shumake for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

- 11. (C) Ambassador Aguirre spoke with Foreign Minister Moratinos on August 7, reaching him while vacationing in the Aegean Sea. The Ambassador thanked Moratinos for clarifying Spain's position on Kosovo during his August 3 conversation with Secretary Rice. The Ambassador asked Moratinos to go further and consider making a public statement of support for Kosovar independence. Moratinos reiterated Spain's intent to adhere to the EU position and not get in the way on Kosovo, but he made no response to the suggestion of public support.
- ¶2. (C) Separately, Poloff shared reftel demarche with MFA acting DG for Foreign Policy Alberto de la Calle Garcia on August 9. De la Calle said Spain appreciated the level of coordination with the U.S. on Kosovo, noting the July 25 discussion between Assistant Secretary Fried and Director General Pepe Pons. He emphasized that there is no change in Spain's position on Kosovo, but Spain is committed to EU consensus and to finding constructive ways to resolve the status of Kosovo and preserve regional stability. De la Calle said he would pass our latest update to Political Director Rafael Dezcallar, currently on vacation.

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